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# OFFICIAL FOOT BALL RULES

1907

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OFFICIAL FOOT BALL GUIDE

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## ALTERATIONS IN THE RULES FOR THE SEASON OF 1907

The actual matter of the rules has not been materially changed owing to the satisfaction that was found with the wholesale revision which took place in the rules of 1906. The particular detail of the few alterations follows later.

Meantime, it is worth while to look over the new arrangement and the headings, which will give a fair idea of the general plan.

First come the rules relating to the field and the ball. Then those relating to the number of players and substitutes, then the length of the game and scoring. Following these come definitions of all the terms used. This group of definitions is followed by rules relating to the kick-off and the position of players on scrimmage as well as kick-off, kick-out, punt-out and place-kick, also on free kicks. Then come sections covering the putting of the ball in play and the detail of the game. Following these, unlawful interference with play, obstruction of opponents, passing or throwing the ball, and on- and off-side. Then the rules relating to the necessary gain on downs and distance of the kick, as well as a description of a try-at-goal.

The next two groups govern the conduct of players as well as the conduct of persons other than players. Following these come penalties and the duties of the officials, with brief of rules over which each has control. Appended to these are notes giving briefly the suggestions and interpretations placed on the rules.

The main alterations are as follows: An increased length of the game. Owing to the fact that it was found under the new rules the players were rather less exhausted than in the old game, it was determined to increase the playing time another ten minutes by adding five minutes to each half.

It was voted to continue the method of two umpires, but to define their duties more specifically, so that one would aid the referee in decisions down



the field. This one is practically an assistant to the Referee and is called the Field Judge. The other, generally speaking, has control of the decisions that belong to the line-up.

The ten-yard rule is preserved exactly as before, that innovation having met with almost general approval in that it made far less effective anything like mass plays and forced the open play which everyone so much desired.

Forward passing has been altered to a certain extent, making it less risky to use it on the first and second down. Instead of losing the ball in case the forward pass strikes the ground before striking a player of either side, the same side retains possession of the ball by losing fifteen yards in distance. When the forward pass is essayed on the third down, however, and it strikes the ground without striking a player, or is otherwise made illegally, the ball must be surrendered to the other side exactly as formerly.

In order to cover a point upon which there was some discussion last year, the following legislation was enacted: That a line man may carry the ball, provided he does not leave his position in the line until the ball is put in play.

It was also determined that the forward pass or tripping or hurdling by the side that did not put the ball in play in a scrimmage, should be penalized fifteen yards.

In order to more clearly settle the point about the rights of a side on a fair catch, it was enacted that a man should be regarded as having an opportunity to make a fair catch when it was possible for him to reach the ball before it should strike the ground.

In order to prevent signalling by one man and a catch and run by another, it was legislated that if one man of the side signals his intention of making a fair catch, and then another of his side, who did not signal, makes the catch, this player may not run with the ball nor is he entitled to the privileges coming from a fair catch, but the ball must be put down at the point where he caught it for a scrimmage by his side.

All questions of hurdling were put within the jurisdiction of the referee.

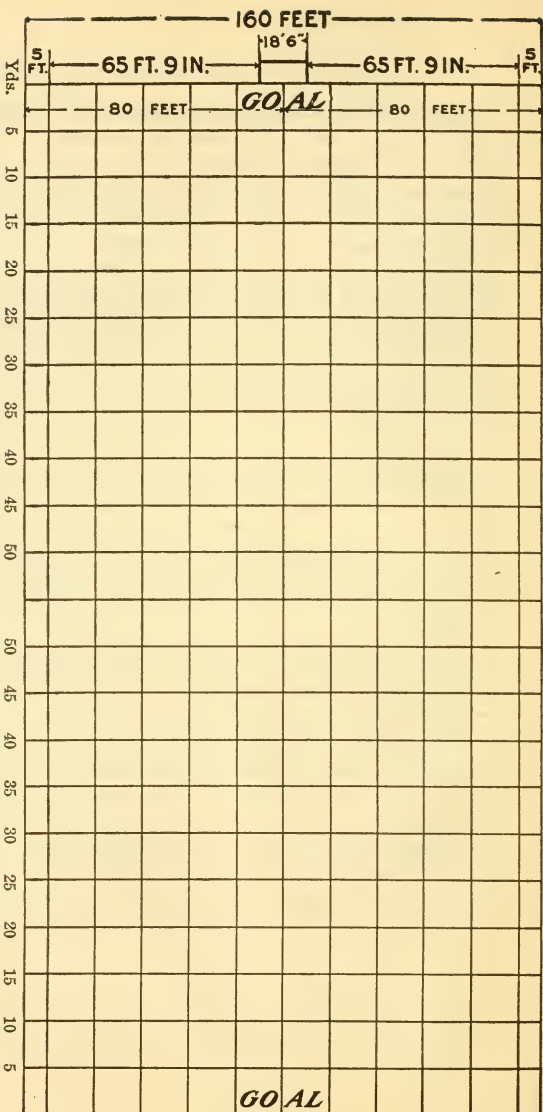


DIAGRAM OF FIELD.

The foot ball rules provide that when the ball is put in play in a scrimmage, the first man who receives the ball, commonly known as the quarter-back, may carry it forward beyond the line of scrimmage, provided in so doing he crosses such line at least 5 yards from the point where the snapper-back put the ball in play, and furthermore, that a forward pass may be made provided the ball passes over the line of scrimmage at least 5 yards from the point at which the ball is put in play. The field is marked off at intervals of 5 yards with white lines parallel to the goal line, for convenience in penalizing fouls and for measuring the 10 yards to be gained in three downs, and also at intervals of 5 yards with white lines parallel to the side lines, in order to assist the Referee in determining whether the quarter-back runs according to rule, or whether, in case of a forward pass, such pass is legally made. Thus the foot ball field is changed from the gridiron as in 1902, to what now resembles a checkerboard, and the above diagram shows exactly how the field should be marked. As the width of the field does not divide evenly into 5 yard spaces, it is wise to run the first line through the middle point of the field and then to mark off the 5 yards on each side from that middle line. In order to save labor, it may be sufficient to omit the full completion of the longitudinal lines, as the object of these lines is accomplished if their points of intersection with the transverse lines are distinctly marked, for instance, by a line a foot long.



# OFFICIAL FOOT BALL RULES 1907

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## RULE I.

### FIELD.

SECTION 1. The game shall be played **Dimensions.**  
upon a rectangular field, 330 feet in length  
and 160 feet in width, enclosed by heavy  
white lines marked in lime upon the ground.  
The lines at the two ends shall be termed  
*Goal Lines*. Those on the two sides shall  
be termed *Side Lines* and shall be consid-  
ered to extend beyond their points of in-  
tersection with the goal lines. The rec-  
tangular space bounded by the goal lines  
and the side lines shall be technically known  
as the *Field of Play*.

**Field of Play.**

SECTION 2. The field shall be marked off **Marking.**  
at intervals of 5 yards, with white lines par-  
allel to the goal lines, and also at intervals  
of 5 yards, with white lines parallel to the  
side lines, beginning at the center.

(See Note 1, Page 199.)

SECTION 3. The goal shall be placed in the **Goal.**  
middle of each goal line, and shall consist

**RULE I.**

of two upright posts exceeding 20 feet in height and placed 18 feet 6 inches apart, with a horizontal cross-bar 10 feet from the ground.

**RULE II.****BALL.**

**Ball.** SECTION 1. The foot ball used shall be of leather, enclosing an inflated rubber bladder. The ball shall have the shape of a prolate spheroid.

**RULE III.****PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES.**

**Number of** SECTION 1. The game shall be played by  
**Players.** two teams of eleven men each.

**Substitutes.** SECTION 2. A player may be substituted for another at any time. In such a case the substitute must go directly to the Referee and report himself before engaging in play. A player who has been replaced by a substitute may not return to further participation in the game.

**PENALTY****(REFEREE)**

For not so reporting or for further participation—Loss of 15 yards.

**Equipment of** SECTION 3. No player having projecting  
**Players.** nails or iron plates on his shoes or any projecting metallic or hard substance on his person shall be allowed to play in a game. If head protectors are worn, no sole leather, papier mache, or other hard or unyielding

**RULE III.**

material shall be used in their construction, and all other devices for protectors must be so arranged and padded as, in the judgment of the Umpire, to be without danger to other players. Leather cleats upon the shoes shall be allowed as heretofore.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Suspension, unless the fault is corrected within two minutes.

**RULE IV.****LENGTH OF GAME.**

**SECTION 1.** The length of the game shall be 70 minutes, divided into two halves of 35 minutes each, exclusive of time taken out, though it may be of shorter duration by mutual agreement between the managers or captains of the contesting teams. Length of Halves.

In case no such agreement is reached before 10 minutes after the time scheduled for beginning the game, the Referee shall order the game to proceed and the full time shall be played.

**SECTION 2.** There shall be ten minutes intermission between the two halves. Intermission.

**SECTION 3.** Whenever the commencement of a game is so late that in the opinion of the Referee, there is any likelihood of the game being interfered with by darkness, he shall, before play begins, arbitrarily shorten the two halves to such length as shall insure Darkness.

**RULE IV.**

two equal halves being completed, and shall notify both captains of the exact time thus set.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

For refusal to abide by the opinion of the Referee under Section 3—Forfeiture of the game.

**Time extended.** SECTION 4. Time shall not be called for the end of a half until the ball is dead, and in the case of a touchdown the try-at-goal shall be allowed.

**RULE V.****SCORING.**

**Scoring.** The game shall be decided by the final score at the end of the two halves. The following shall be the value of plays in scoring:

Touchdown, 5 points.

Goal from touchdown, 1 point.

Goal from the field, 4 points.

Safety by opponents, 2 points.

**RULE VI.****DEFINITIONS.**

**Place-kick.** SECTION 1. A *Place-kick* is kicking the ball after it has been placed on the ground.

**Kick-off.** A *Kick-off* is a place-kick from the center of the field of play.

(For position of players see Rule IX., Page 153.)

**RULE VI.**

A *Punt* is dropping the ball from the Punt. hand or hands and kicking it before it touches the ground.

A *Punt-out* is a punt made by a player Punt-out of the side which has made a touchdown to another of his own side for a fair catch.

(For position of players see Rule XI., Page 155.)

A *Drop-kick* is dropping the ball from the Drop-kick. hand or hands and kicking it the instant it rises from the ground.

A *Kick-out* is a drop-kick, place-kick or Kick-out. punt made by a player of the side which has made a safety or a touchback.

(For position of players see Rule X., Page 154.)

A *Free-kick* is any kick when the oppo- Free-kick. nents are restrained by rule from advancing beyond a certain point before the ball is put in play, and includes *Kick-off*, *Kick-out*, *Punt-out*, *Kick from a Fair Catch*, and *Place-kick for Goal* after a touchdown.

SECTION 2. *Snapping the ball* is putting Snapping the ball. it back from its position on the ground with one quick and continuous motion of hand or hands or of the foot.

SECTION 3. A *Scrimmage* takes place Scrimmage. when the holder of the ball places it flat upon the ground, with its long axis at right angles to the line of scrimmage, and puts it in play by kicking it forward or snapping

**RULE VI.**

it back. The scrimmage does not end until the ball is dead.

**Line of Scrimmage.** The *Line of Scrimmage* for each side is an imaginary line parallel to the goal line and passing through that point of the ball nearest the side's own goal line.

(For position of players see Rule VIII., Page 151, and Note 4, Page 199. See illustrations Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, Pages 202-205.)

**Off-side.** SECTION 4. A player is *Off-side* when the ball has last been touched by one of his own side behind him.

(For restrictions on Off-side players see Rule XX., Page 171.)

**Fair Catch.** SECTION 5. A *Fair Catch* is catching the ball after it has been kicked by one of the opponents and before it touches the ground, or in similarly catching a "punt-out" by another of the catcher's own side, provided the player (except in case of punt-out, where no signal is necessary), while advancing toward the ball, signals his intention of making a fair catch by raising his hand *clearly* above his head, and does not take more than two steps after making the catch.

(For putting ball in play after, see Rule XV., Page 159, Sections 2 and 11. See illustrations Nos. 9 and 10, Pages 210, 211.)

**Not a fair catch.** It is *not a fair catch* if the ball after the kick was touched by another of the catcher's side before the catch.

**Mark of catch.** The *mark of the catch* is the spot at which the ball is actually caught.



**RULE VI.**

*Opportunity to make a fair catch* is where the player is in such a position that it would be possible for him to reach the ball before it touches the ground. *Opportunity to make fair catch.*

(For interference and false signalling see Rule XVII., Page 164, Sections 5, 6 and 7.)

**SECTION 6.** A *Down* occurs when the Referee blows his whistle or declares the ball dead. **Down.**

The Referee shall blow his whistle or declare the ball dead:

(a) When a player having the ball cries "Down";

(b) When any portion of his person, except his hands or feet, touches the ground while he is in the grasp of an opponent;

(c) When he goes out of bounds; or,

(For definition of Out of Bounds, see Section 13, Page 148.)

(d) Whenever he is so held that his forward progress has been stopped;

(e) When, on a forward pass, the ball, after being passed forward, touches the ground before being touched by a player of either side.

(See Rule XIX., Page 167, Section 4.)

**SECTION 7.** A *Touchdown* is made when the ball lawfully in possession of a player is declared dead by the Referee, any part of it being on, above or behind the opponent's goal line. **Touchdown.**

**RULE VI.**

The *Touchdown* is marked at the point not where the ball is carried across the line, but where the ball is called "down" by the Referee, and if the ball is carried across the extension of the side line, is marked at the point where the side line crosses the goal line.

(For *Touchdown from Kick-off*, see Rule VII., Page 150, Sec. 2.)

**Touchback.**

SECTION 8. A *Touchback* is made when the ball in possession of a player guarding his own goal is declared dead by the Referee, any part of it being on, above or behind the goal line, provided the impetus which sent it to or across the line was given by an opponent. The Referee shall declare the ball dead behind the goal line just as if it were on the field of play.

It is also a *Touchback* when a kicked ball (other than at kick-off or a place-kick or drop-kick passing over the cross-bar) goes over the goal line either on the fly or after striking the ground (before being touched by a player of either side).

It is a *Touchback* when a player on defense permits a ball, kicked by an opponent, to strike his person and then roll across the goal line, and any player of his side then falls on it back of the line.

Not a *Touchback* It is *not* a *Touchback* if such player juggles the ball so that he in any way forces

**RULE VI.**

it over the line and he or any player of his side then falls on it.

(For Touchback from forward pass see Rule XIX., Page 167, Sections 7 and 8.)

(For Touchback from Kick-off see Rule VII., Page 150, Section 2.)

**SECTION 9.** A *Safety* is made when the **Safety.** ball in the possession of a player guarding his own goal is declared dead by the Referee, any part of it being on, above or behind the goal line, provided the impetus which caused it to pass from outside the goal to or behind the goal line was given by the side defending the goal. Such impetus could come:

(a) From a kick, pass, snap-back or fumble by one of the player's own side.

(b) From a kick which bounded back from an opponent.

(c) In case a player carrying the ball is forced back, provided the ball was not declared dead by the Referee before the line was reached or crossed.

A *Safety* is made when a player of the side in possession of the ball commits a foul which would give the ball to the opponents behind the offender's goal line.

A *Safety* is made when the ball, kicked by a man behind his goal line, crosses the extended portion of either side line.

**SECTION 10.** A *Goal from Touchdown* is **Goal from** made by kicking the ball from the field of **Touchdown.**

**RULE VI.**

play over the cross-bar of the opponents' goal, by a place-kick direct, or a place-kick preceded by a punt-out.

If the ball passes directly over one of the uprights, or if, after being kicked, it strikes an opponent and then passes over the cross-bar or one of the uprights, it shall count a goal.

**Goal from the Field.** SECTION 11. A *Goal from the Field* is made by kicking the ball from the field of play over the cross-bar of the opponents' goal in any way except by a punt or a kick-off.

If the ball passes directly over one of the uprights, or if, after being kicked, it strikes an opponent and then passes over the cross-bar or one of the uprights, it shall count a goal.

**Foul.** SECTION 12. A *Foul* is any violation of a rule.

**Out of Bounds.** SECTION 13. The ball is *Out of Bounds* when either the ball or any part of a player who holds it touches the ground on or outside the side line or side line extended.

**Tripping.** SECTION 14. *Tripping* is obstructing a player below the knee with that part of the obstructing player's leg that is below the knee.

(For penalty see Rule XXIV., Page 174, Section 5. See Note 9, Page 200. See illustration No. 11, Page 212.)

**RULE VI.**

SECTION 15. *Hurdling* as used in the rules **Hurdling.**  
 applies only to the man carrying the ball.

*Hurdling in the open* is jumping over or attempting to jump over an opponent who is still on his feet.

*Hurdling in the line* is jumping over, or attempting to jump over, a player on the line of scrimmage, with the feet or knees foremost, within the distance of 5 yards on either side of the point where the ball was put in play.

(For penalty see Rule XXIV., Page 174, Section 4. See Note 10, Page 201.)

SECTION 16. The ball is *Dead* :

**Ball is dead.**

(a) When the Referee blows his whistle or declares that a down, touchdown, touch-back, safety or goal has been made;

(b) When a fair catch has been made;

(c) When any portion of the person (except the hands or feet) of the player carrying the ball touches the ground, when the player is in the grasp of an opponent;

(d) When the ball goes out of bounds after a kick, before touching a player who is on-side or is otherwise entitled to it;

(e) When a player carrying the ball goes out of bounds;

(For definition of Out of Bounds, see Section 13, Page 148.)

(f) When, on a forward pass, the ball, after being passed forward, crosses the

**RULE VI.**

goal line on the fly without touching a player of either side;

(See Rule XIX., Page 167, Section 7.)

(g) When, on a forward pass, the ball, after being passed forward and legally touched by any player, crosses the goal line either in the air or rolling on the ground;

(See Rule XIX., Page 167, Section 8.)

(h) When a kicked ball (except a kick-off or free-kick) goes over the goal line on the fly or strikes inside the field of play and then rolls over the goal line before being touched by a player of either side;

(See Section 8, Page 146. See Note 12, Page 201.)

(i) At the spot where it was when the Referee blew his whistle or declared it dead.

Ball striking official not dead. A ball is *not dead* when it strikes an official.

**RULE VII.****KICK-OFF**

Beginning of game. SECTION 1. The captains of the opposing teams shall toss up a coin before the game, the winner of the toss to have his choice of goal or kick-off. If the winner of the toss selects the goal, the loser must take the kick-off.

Second half. At the beginning of the second half the teams shall take opposite goals from those assumed at the beginning of the first



**RULE VII.**

half, and the kick-off shall be made by the side which did not first kick off at the beginning of the game.

The teams shall change goals after every try-at-goal following a touchdown, and after every goal from the field, and the side just scored upon shall have the option of kicking off or of having their opponents kick off. After scoring.

(For position of players, see Rule IX., Page 153.)

**SECTION 2.** At kick-off, if the ball is kicked across the goal line and is there declared dead when in the possession of one of the side defending the goal, it is a *touchback*. Ball kicked across goal line

If the ball is not declared dead, the side defending the goal may run with it or kick it exactly as if it had not crossed the goal line.

If it is declared dead in possession of the attacking side, provided that the man was on-side, it is a *touchdown*.

**RULE VIII.****POSITION OF PLAYERS AT SCRIMMAGE.**

**SECTION 1.** When the ball is put in play by a scrimmage at least six players of the side holding the ball shall be on the line of scrimmage. If only six players are on the line of scrimmage, one player of those not on the line of scrimmage shall stand with Six players on scrimmage line.

**RULE VIII.**

both feet outside the outside foot of the player on the end of the line.

**Player on** A player shall be considered to be on the  
**scrimmage line,** line of scrimmage if he has both hands or  
**when.** both feet up to or within one foot of this

line, or if he has one foot and the opposite hand up to or within one foot of it. He shall also stand with both feet outside the outside foot of the player next to him, unless he be one of the two men standing on either side of and next to the snapper-back (commonly known as guards), in which case he may lock legs with the snapper-back.

**Locking legs.**

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

**Loss of 5 yards.**

(See Note 6, Page 200. See illustrations Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8, Pages 206-209.)

**No player** **SECTION 2.** In a scrimmage no part of any  
**ahead of scrim-** player shall be ahead of his line of scrim-  
**mage line.** mage, except that the snapper-back when snapping the ball back may have his head and his hands or the foot used in snapping the ball ahead of his line of scrimmage.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

**If any player except snapper-back is ahead of his line—Loss of 5 yards.**

(REFEREE)

**If snapper-back is ahead—for first violation, no penalty, the ball to be snapped again; for second violation on the same down—5 yards; for third violation on the same scrimmage, ball to go to opponents.**

(See illustration No. 4, Page 205.)

**RULE VIII.**

**SECTION 3.** No player of those ordinarily occupying the position of center, guard, or tackle—that is, the five middle players of the line—may drop back from the line of scrimmage on the offense unless he is at least 5 yards back of the line of scrimmage when the ball is put in play, and another player of those ordinarily behind the line of scrimmage takes his place on the line of scrimmage.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

**Loss of 5 yards.***(See Note 7, Page 200.)*

**SECTION 4.** At the moment when the ball is put in play in a scrimmage, no player of the side which has the ball shall be in motion, except that one man of the side having the ball may be in motion towards his own goal.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

**Loss of 5 yards.****RULE IX.****POSITION OF PLAYERS AT KICK-OFF.**

**SECTION 1.** The ball shall be kicked from the center of the field.

**SECTION 2.** The kicker's side shall be behind the ball when it is kicked.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

**The ball shall be kicked off again from a point 5 yards back and directly back of the center of the field, and a new restraining line for the opponents is established 5 yards nearer the goal line of the kicker's side.**

**RULE IX.**

**Opponents.** SECTION 3. The opponents shall be behind a line 10 yards in front of the ball until the ball is kicked.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

The ball shall be kicked off again from a point which may be 5 yards nearer opponents' goal if the kicking side so desires, and a new restraining line for opponents is established 5 yards nearer the opponents' goal.

**RULE X.****POSITION OF PLAYERS AT KICK-OUT.**

**Kicker.** SECTION 1. The ball shall be kicked out from some point inside the kicker's 25-yard line.

**Player with ball not to cross line.** SECTION 2. *No player* of the kicking side shall advance beyond the 25-yard line *with the ball in his possession.*

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

The ball shall be kicked out from some point 5 yards back of the original restraining line and a new restraining line for the opponents is established 5 yards nearer the goal line of the kicker's side.

**Ball not to touch ground.** SECTION 3. No player of the kicking side shall allow the ball to touch the ground in the field of play without immediately thereafter putting it in play by kicking it.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE).

Same as under Section 2.

**Kicker's side.** SECTION 4. The kicker's side shall be behind the ball when it is kicked.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Same as under Section 2.

**RULE X.**

**SECTION 5.** The opponents shall be on the **Opponents.**  
kicking side's 25-yard line or nearer their  
own goal until :

(a) The ball is kicked; or,

(b) The ball touches the ground within  
the field of play (either by accident or  
otherwise); or,

(c) A player of the kicking side advances  
beyond his restraining line with the ball in  
his possession.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

The ball shall be kicked out from some  
point 5 yards ahead of the original restrain-  
ing line and a new restraining line for the  
opponents is established 5 yards nearer  
their own goal.

**RULE XI.****POSITION OF PLAYERS AT PUNT-OUT.**

**SECTION 1.** The punter shall kick the **Punter.**  
ball from a point at which the line par-  
allel to the side line and passing through  
the spot of the touchdown intersects the  
goal line.

**SECTION 2.** Until the ball is kicked the **Punter's side.**  
punter's side shall stand in the field of  
play not less than 5 yards from the goal line.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

The ball shall be punted out again and a  
new restraining line for the punter's side is  
established 5 yards nearer their own goal.

**SECTION 3.** The opponents may line up **Opponents..**  
anywhere on the goal line except within

**RULE XI.**

the space of 5 yards on each side of the punter's mark, and shall not advance beyond the goal line or come within 5 yards of the punter's mark until the ball is kicked.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

The ball may be punted out again and a new restraining line for the opponents is established 5 yards back of their original line.

**RULE XII.**

**POSITION OF PLAYERS AT PLACE-KICK  
FOR GOAL AFTER TOUCHDOWN.**

**Kicker.** SECTION 1. The ball shall be held for the kick by another player of the kicker's side and must be kicked.

(a) In case of a place-kick preceded by a fair catch of a punt-out, *from the mark* of the fair catch, or any point directly behind it.

(For definition of Mark of Fair Catch, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.)

(b) In case of a place-kick not preceded by a punt-out, *from some point* to be selected by the kicker and by him indicated to the Referee outside the goal, on a line parallel to the side line and passing through the point where the touchdown was declared.

**Player with ball not to cross line.** SECTION 2. *No player* of the kicking side shall advance beyond the point or line from which the ball is to be kicked *with the ball in his possession.*

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

The ball must be kicked from some point 5 yards directly back of the original mark or point.



**RULE XII.**

**SECTION 3.** The kicker's side shall be Kicker's side. behind the ball when it is kicked.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Same as under Section 2.

**SECTION 4.** The opponents shall stand Opponents. on or behind the goal line until :

(a) The ball is kicked or the Referee signals with his hand that the ball has touched the ground; or,

(b) A player of the kicking side advances beyond his restraining line with the ball in his possession.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

The ball may be kicked from some point 5 yards ahead of the original mark and a new restraining line for the opponents is established 5 yards back of the goal line.

**RULE XIII.**

**POSITION OF PLAYERS ON FREE KICK  
AFTER FAIR CATCH (OTHER  
THAN FAIR CATCH FROM  
PUNT-OUT).**

**SECTION 1.** The ball shall be kicked by Kicker. a punt, drop-kick or place-kick, either from the mark of the catch or from some point directly back of it.

(For definition of Mark of Fair Catch, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.)

**SECTION 2.** No player of the kicking Player with ball side shall advance beyond a line passing not to cross line. through the mark of the catch and parallel

**RULE XIII.**

to the goal line *with the ball in his possession.*

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

The ball must be kicked from some point at least 5 yards back of the original mark and a new restraining line for the opponents is established 5 yards nearer the original mark.

Ball not to touch ground. SECTION 3. No player of the kicking side shall allow the ball to touch the ground in the field of play, without immediately thereafter putting it in play by kicking it.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

Same as under Section 2.

Kicker's side. SECTION 4. The kicker's side shall be behind the ball when it is kicked.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Same as under Section 2.

Opponents. SECTION 5. The opponents shall be behind a line 10 yards in front of the line passing through the mark of the catch and parallel to the goal line until :

(a) The ball is kicked; or,

(b) The ball touches the ground (either by accident or otherwise); or,

(c) A player of the kicking side advances beyond his restraining line with the ball in his possession.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

The ball may be kicked from a point 5 yards ahead of the original mark and a new restraining line for the opponents is established 5 yards nearer their own goal.

## RULE XIV.

### POSITION OF PLAYERS OUT OF BOUNDS.

SECTION 1. No player may be out of Holder of ball. bounds at the time when the ball is put in play except the kicker and the holder of the ball in a place-kick.

#### PENALTY

(UMPIRE)

For first violation the ball is brought back and played over.

For further violations during the same scrimmage—Loss of 5 yards for each violation.

## RULE XV.

### PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY.

SECTION 1. The ball shall be put in play Always scrimmage by a scrimmage unless otherwise specifically provided. mage unless—

#### PENALTY

(REFEREE)

For first violation the ball is brought back and played over. For further violations during the same scrimmage—5 yards for each violation.

SECTION 2. After a fair catch the ball After fair catch. may be put in play by either a punt, drop-kick, place-kick or scrimmage.

*(For definition of Fair Catch, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.  
See Note 5, Page 200.)*

SECTION 3. If a foul is declared the ball After a foul, shall not be put in play again until penalty not until. has either been enforced or declined.

*(For definition of Foul, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 12.)*

**RULE XV.**

Player first receiving ball from snapper-back. **SECTION 4.** The player who first receives the ball when it is snapped back shall not carry the ball forward beyond the line of scrimmage unless he shall have regained it after having delivered it wholly out of his possession to another player, or unless he shall have crossed the line of scrimmage at least 5 yards outside of the point where the ball was snapped.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

Loss of 15 yards.

Feint to snap the ball. **SECTION 5.** If, after the snapper-back has taken his position, he voluntarily moves the ball as if to snap it, whether he withholds it altogether or only momentarily, it shall be considered as in play, and the scrimmage as begun.

Feints by players of side on offense other than snapper-back. **SECTION 6.** If a player other than the snapper-back of the side in possession of the ball makes a deliberate attempt, by a false start or otherwise, to draw the opponents off-side, the ball, if snapped, shall not be regarded as in play or the scrimmage as begun.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

Loss of 5 yards.

Ball kicked out of bounds. **SECTION 7.** At kick-off, if the ball goes out of bounds before it is touched by an opponent, it shall be brought back and be kicked off again. If it is kicked out of bounds a

**RULE XV.**

second time it shall go as a kick-off to the opponents. If either side thus forfeits the ball twice, it shall go to the opponents, who shall put it in play by a scrimmage at the center of the field.

(See Note 15, Page 201.)

SECTION 8. If on a kick-out the ball goes After out of out of bounds before striking a player, it bounds at must be kicked out again, and if this occurs kick-out. twice in succession it shall be given to the opponents as out of bounds on the 35-yard line nearest to the kicker's goal line.

(See Note 15, Page 201.)

SECTION 9. If a kicked ball other than at After out of kick-off, or kick-out, either before or after bounds except touching the ground, goes out of bounds at kick-off and before crossing the opponents' goal line, it kick-out. shall belong to the opponents at the point where it crosses the side line.

But if it strikes any player who is entitled to get it and then goes out of bounds it shall belong to the player who first obtains possession of it.

SECTION 10. If the ball goes out of bounds, Walking in with whether it bounds back or not, a player of ball after out of the side which is entitled to its possession bounds. must bring it to the spot where the ball crossed the side line, and there, after declaring how far he intends walking, walk

**RULE XV.**

in with it, in company with the Referee, at right angles to the side line, any distance not less than 5 nor more than 15 yards, and at a point indicated by the Referee put it down for a scrimmage.

Two steps after fair catch. SECTION 11. If the player attempting to make a fair catch takes more than two steps after catching the ball, his side must put the ball in play by a *scrimmage* at a point 5 yards back of the mark of the catch.

(See Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.)

Ball touching ground at try-at-goal to go as a kick-off. SECTION 12. If in case of a try-at-goal after a touchdown the ball is not kicked after having been allowed to touch the ground once, no second attempt shall be permitted and the ball shall be kicked off at the center of the field exactly as if the try-at-goal had been made.

After try-at-goal ball to go as a kick-off. SECTION 13. After the try - at - goal, whether the goal be made or missed, the ball shall be put in play by a kick-off at the center of the field.

On failure of fair catch at punt-out ball to go as a kick-off. SECTION 14. If a fair catch is not made on the first attempt on a punt-out, the ball shall be put in play by a kick-off at the center of the field.

**RULE XVI.****DELAY OF GAME.**

Time taken out. SECTION 1. Time shall be taken out whenever the game is necessarily delayed or



**RULE XVI.**

while the ball is being brought out for a try-at-goal, punt-out, kick-out, or kick-off, after a fair catch has been made, or when play is for any reason suspended by the Referee. Time shall begin again when the ball is actually put in play.

SECTION 2. Time shall not be taken out when the ball goes out of bounds except at the direction of the Referee, and then only in case of unreasonable delay in returning the ball to play.

SECTION 3. Either captain may ask that time be called three times during each half without penalty. If thereafter, however, time is taken out at the request of a captain, his side shall be penalized by a loss of two yards for each time (unless a player be removed from the game), the number of the down and the *distance* to be gained remaining the same as they were before the request was made.

The Referee, however, may suspend play at any time at his own discretion without penalty to either side.

SECTION 4. No delay arising from any cause whatsoever shall continue more than two minutes.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

Unreasonable delay on the part of side not in possession of ball—5 yards and the

**RULE XVI.**

scrimmage following to be counted as first down.

Unreasonable delay on the part of side in possession of the ball—5 yards, the down and the point to be gained for the first down remaining the same as they were at the beginning of the scrimmage during which the delay occurred.

Refusal of either side to play within two minutes after having been ordered to do so by the Referee—forfeiture of the game.

**RULE XVII.****UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH PLAY.**

**Interference**      **SECTION 1.** Before the ball is put in play  
with snapper- the opponents must not interfere in any  
back or ball. way with the snapper-back, nor touch him  
or the ball.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

Loss of 5 yards.

**Interference**      **SECTION 2.** Before the ball is put in play  
with opponents no player shall lay his hands upon, or by  
the use of his hands or arms, interfere  
with an opponent in such a way as to delay  
putting the ball in play.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Loss of 5 yards.

**Snapper-back**  
**and player**      **SECTION 3.** When the ball is put in play  
**opposite not to** by snapping it back, the snapper-back and  
**touch ball** the player opposite him in the scrimmage  
**until—** may not, after the ball has been put in

**RULE XVII.**

play, touch the ball until it has touched some player other than these two.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

For violation of, by snapper-back—Loss of 5 yards, the down and the point to be gained remaining the same.

For violation by player opposite snapper-back—Return of the ball to other side and 5 yards advance by that side, the scrimmage following to be counted as first down.

**SECTION 4.** When the ball is put in play in a scrimmage by kicking it forward instead of snapping it back, no player of the side which put the ball in play may touch it until it has been touched by an opponent or until it has gone 10 yards into the opponents' territory.

Ball scrimmaged by kick forward not to be touched until—

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

For violation, the ball goes to the opponents on the spot of the foul.

**SECTION 5.** When a player has an opportunity for making a fair catch, opponents who are off-side shall not in any way interfere with him or with the ball.

Interference with opportunity for making fair catch.

**PENALTY**

(FIELD JUDGE)

Loss of 15 yards and offended side to have fair catch whether ball be caught or not.

(For definition of Opportunity to Make a Fair Catch, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.)

**SECTION 6.** No player shall be thrown to the ground after he has made a fair catch.

Maker of fair catch not to be thrown.

**PENALTY**

(FIELD JUDGE)

Loss of 15 yards.

(For definition of Fair Catch, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.)

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Signal for fair catch protects only the player signalling. **SECTION 7.** In case a signal for a fair catch is made by any player who has an opportunity for a fair catch, and another player of his side who has not signaled for a fair catch catches the ball, no run shall be made, nor shall the fair catch be allowed, but the ball shall be given to the catcher's side for a scrimmage at the point where the catch was made.

(FIELD JUDGE)

*(For definitions see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 5.)***RULE XVIII.**

**OBSTRUCTION OF OPPONENTS BY USE OF  
HANDS AND ARMS AFTER THE  
BALL IS PUT IN PLAY.**

Player running with ball. **SECTION 1.** The player running with the ball may ward off opponents with his hands and arms.

Player running down the field under a kick. **SECTION 2.** A player running down the field under a kick may use his hands or arms to push opponents out of the way in order to get at the ball or the player carrying it.

By side not in possession of ball. **SECTION 3.** The players of the side not in possession of the ball may use their hands and arms to get their opponents out of the way in order to get at the ball or stop the player carrying it.

Tackling. **SECTION 4.** The players of the side not in possession of the ball may use their hands

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and arms in tackling the player who is carrying the ball.

**SECTION 5.** Except as provided in Sections Holding and 1, 2, 3 and 4, all holding and the use of the unlawful use of hands and arms in obstructing an opponent, hands and arms. except with the arms close to the body is prohibited. This prohibition includes:

(a) Grasping an opponent with the hands or arms.

(b) Placing the hands upon an opponent to push him away from the play.

(c) Encircling in any degree any part of the opponent with the arm.

(d) Using the arms in any way to lift an opponent in blocking.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

**For side in possession of ball—Loss of 15 yards.**

**For side not in possession of ball—Loss of 5 yards.**

*(See illustrations Nos. 12-27, Pages 213-228.)*

**RULE XIX.****PASSING OR THROWING THE BALL.**

**SECTION 1.** Any player may, at any time, Backward pass. pass or throw the ball in any direction except toward his opponents' goal. Forward pass

**SECTION 2.** The ball may not be passed by side not put- or thrown toward the opponents' goal by a ting ball in play.

**RULE XIX.**

player of the side that did not put the ball in play from a scrimmage.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

If such illegal forward pass is made, the offending side shall put the ball in play by a scrimmage at a point 15 yards directly back of the spot from which the pass was made. The ensuing down shall be the first down.

**SECTION 3.** A player of the side which put the ball in play from a scrimmage may pass or throw the ball toward the opponents' goal under the following restrictions :

Forward pass (a) A forward pass shall be illegal if the  
crossing scrim- ball crosses the line of scrimmage within 5  
mage line illegal yards from the spot where it was put in  
unless— play.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

If such offense occurs before a "third down" has been declared (i. e., if it occurs during a play following either a first or second down) the offending side shall put the ball in play 15 yards directly back of the spot where the pass was made and the play shall count as a down. The point to be gained shall remain the same.

If, however, such offense occurs after a third down has been declared (i. e., if it occurs during a play following a third down), the ball shall go to the opponents at the spot where the pass was made.

Forward pass (b) The forward pass must be made by a  
by player not player who was behind the line of scrimmage  
behind scrim- when the ball was put in play. If made by  
mage line illegal. any other player the pass is illegal.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

The same as stated under Section 3 (a).

**RULE XIX.**

(c) Only one forward pass may be made in each scrimmage. A second forward pass in the same scrimmage is illegal. Second forward pass illegal.

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

The same as stated under Section 3 (a).

SECTION 4. If the ball, after having been legally passed forward, strikes the ground within the field of play before being touched by a player of either side, the pass shall not be considered as completed. Forward pass striking ground.

**PENALTY**

(FIELD JUDGE)

For uncompleted pass the same as under Section 3 (a).

SECTION 5. (a) After the ball has been legally passed forward, it may first be touched only by the player who received the ball from the snapper-back or such other players of the passer's side as were at the time that the ball was put in play at least 1 yard behind the line of scrimmage or were playing at either end of the said line. Players who may receive forward pass.

If the forward pass is first touched by any other player of the passer's side the pass shall not be considered as completed.

**PENALTY**

(FIELD JUDGE)

For uncompleted pass the same as under Section 3 (a).

(b) Any player of the side that did not make the forward pass has full right to



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touch and to attempt to secure possession of the ball.

(c) When the ball has legally been passed forward and has been legally touched by any player of either side before it strikes the ground, any player on either side has the right to attempt to secure possession of the ball.

(For Ball Crossing Goal Line, see Section 8, Page 170.)

Forward pass out of bounds. SECTION 6. If the ball, after having been legally passed forward, goes out of bounds before it touches the ground and before it has been touched by a player of either side, it shall belong to the opponents at the point where the ball crossed the side line.

(FIELD JUDGE)

Forward pass crossing goal line on the fly. SECTION 7. If the ball, after having been legally passed forward, crosses the goal line on the fly before it has been touched by a player on either side, it becomes dead, and shall count as a *touchback* to the defenders of the goal.

(FIELD JUDGE)

Forward pass crossing goal line after being legally touched. SECTION 8. If the ball, after having been legally passed forward and legally touched by any player, crosses the goal line either in the air or rolling on the ground, it becomes dead, and shall count as a *touchback* for the defenders of the goal.

(FIELD JUDGE)

**RULE XIX.**

**SECTION 9.** A player may at any time bat the ball in any direction except toward his opponents' goal. **Batting the ball.**

**PENALTY**

(REFEREE)

For batting the ball toward opponents' goal by any player, whether his side is in possession of ball or not—Loss of 5 yards.

**RULE XX.****OFF-SIDE AND ON-SIDE.**

**SECTION 1.** A player is put off-side if the ball in play has last been touched by one of his own side behind him. No player, however, may be called off-side behind his own goal line, nor when holding the ball for a place-kick after a fair catch or touchdown. **Off-side.**

**SECTION 2.** A player may at all times receive the ball from another of his own side who is in front of him, and any player may recover the ball on a fumble or a muff, but *in no other instance shall a player when off-side touch the ball.* [Apparent violations of the off-side rule by players attempting either legally or illegally to receive a forward pass are to be judged solely under the provisions of Rule XIX.] **When off-side player may touch ball**

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

When an off-side player within his opponents' 10-yard line is touched by a ball kicked by one of his own side — Touchback for defenders of goal.

In all other cases—ball to go to the opponents on the spot where the foul occurred.

**RULE XX.**

When ball touches opponent. **SECTION 3.** Any player being off-side is put on-side when the ball has touched an opponent.

Players put on-side when kicked ball touches ground. **SECTION 4.** A player *of the side which put the ball in play* being off-side is put on-side when a kicked ball (except a ball put in play in a scrimmage by kicking it forward instead of snapping it back) touches the ground in the field of play. No player of either side may further kick or kick at such a ball while on the ground or bounding.

Kicked ball on ground not to be kicked again.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Loss of the ball to the opponents on the spot where the foul occurred.

Kicker though on-side may not recover ball. **SECTION 5.** The player who standing back of his own line of scrimmage receives the ball from one of his own side and then kicks it beyond the line of scrimmage may not himself get the ball until after it has touched one of his opponents.

**RULE XXI.****NECESSARY GAIN ON DOWNS.**

10 yards in 3 downs. **SECTION 1.** If in three consecutive downs (unless the ball shall have crossed the goal line), a team having constantly had the ball in its possession, shall not have advanced the ball 10 yards, it shall go to the opponents on the spot of the fourth down, except as provided in Section 2.

(See Note 2, Page 199.)

**RULE XXI.**

SECTION 2. The ball shall not be considered as having been “constantly in possession”:

(a) When the ball, after having passed into the actual possession and control of the other side is recovered before it is declared dead by the Referee.

(b) When the ball has been kicked and the opponents given a fair and equal chance of gaining possession of it. No kick shall be regarded as having given the opponents such chance unless it shall have crossed the line of scrimmage or shall have been touched by an opponent.

SECTION 3. The forward point of the ball in its position when declared dead, and not its center shall be taken as the determining point in measuring; and the Referee shall not rotate the ball before measuring its forward point.

Position of  
ball in measur-  
ing.

**RULE XXII.****NECESSARY DISTANCE ON KICK.**

SECTION 1. In the case of a kick-off, kick-out or kick from a fair catch, the ball must be kicked a distance of at least 10 yards toward the opponents' goal line from the line restraining the player making the kick, unless it is touched by an opponent; otherwise the ball is not in play.

10 yards  
on kick.

## RULE XXIII.

### TRY AT GOAL.

**Place-kick.** SECTION 1. A side which has made a touchdown shall try at goal by a place-kick, either direct or preceded by a punt-out.

*(For Position of Players, see Rule XI., Page 155, and Rule XII., Page 156.)*

## RULE XXIV.

### CONDUCT OF PLAYERS.

**Striking,** SECTION 1. There shall be no striking  
**kneeing,** with the fist or elbows, kneeling, kicking,  
**kicking.** meeting with the knee, nor striking with  
 the locked hands by line men when they  
 are breaking through; nor shall a player on  
 defense strike in the face with the heel of  
 the hand the opponent who is carrying  
 the ball.

#### PENALTY

(REFEREE, UMPIRE,  
FIELD JUDGE, LINESMAN)

**For violation of any part of Section 1—Dis-  
 qualification and loss by offending team of  
 one-half the distance to its own goal line.**

*(See Note 14, Page 201. See illustrations Nos. 28 and 29,  
 Pages 229, 230.)*

**Running into,** SECTION 2. There shall be no running into  
**"roughing the** or otherwise roughly treating the player  
**full-back."** receiving and kicking the ball as described  
 in Rule XX., Section 5.

#### PENALTY

(REFEREE, UMPIRE,  
FIELD JUDGE, LINESMAN)

**Disqualification.**

*(See Notes 8 and 14, Pages 200, 201.)*

**RULE XXIV.**

**SECTION 3.** There shall be no piling up on the player after the Referee has declared the ball dead. **Piling up.**

**PENALTY** (REFEREE, UMPIRE,  
(FIELD JUDGE, LINESMAN)  
**Loss of 15 yards.**

**SECTION 4.** There shall be no hurdling. **Hurdling.**

**PENALTY** (REFEREE)  
**Loss of 15 yards from spot where foul occurred; the ensuing down to be first down and the point to be gained to be 10 yards from the spot where the foul occurred.**

(For definition see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 15.)

**SECTION 5.** There shall be no tripping, tackling the runner when clearly out of bounds, or any other acts of unnecessary roughness. **Tripping, tackling out of bounds, unnecessary roughness.**

**PENALTY—** (REFEREE, UMPIRE,  
(FIELD JUDGE, LINESMAN)  
**In case of tripping by the side which put the ball in play—Loss of 15 yards from the spot where the foul was made, the ensuing down to be the first down, and the point to be gained to be 10 yards from the spot where the foul was made.**

**In all other cases—Loss of 15 yards.**

(For definition of Tripping, see Rule VI., Page 142, Section 14.)

**SECTION 6.** There shall be no unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the players. This shall include the use of abusive or insulting language to opponents or officials. **Unsportsmanlike conduct. Abusive language.**

**PENALTY** (REFEREE, UMPIRE,  
(FIELD JUDGE, LINESMAN)  
**Suspension for the remainder of the game.**

**SECTION 7.** There shall be no tackling below the knees, except by the men on the line **Tackling below the knees.**

**RULE XXIV.**

of scrimmage on the defense, and of these, the two men occupying the positions on the ends of the line of scrimmage may not tackle below the knees.

**PENALTY**

(UMPIRE)

Loss of 5 yards from the spot where the tackle was made. But this penalty shall not be exacted if the tackle has been fairly made and the tackler's arms or hands then slip down below the knees.

(See illustration No. 30, Page 231.)

**Playing for penalties to delay game.** SECTION 8. If a team on the defense commits fouls so near their own goal that these fouls are punishable only by the halving of the distance to the line, the object being, in the opinion of the Referee, to delay the game, the offending side shall be regarded as refusing to allow the game to proceed. The Referee shall in such case warn the offending side once, and if the offense is repeated, he shall declare the game forfeited to the opponents.

(See Rule XXVI., Page 178, Section 6.)

**Unfair play.** SECTION 9. In case the play is interfered with by some act palpably unfair and not elsewhere provided for in these rules, either the Referee or Umpire shall have the power to award 5 yards to the offended side, the number of the down and the point to be gained being determined as provided in Rule XXVI.



## RULE XXV.

### CONDUCT OF PERSONS OTHER THAN PLAYERS.

**SECTION 1.** There shall be no coaching, Side line either by substitutes or by any other per- coaching. son not participating in the game.

#### PENALTY

( REFEREE, UMPIRE,  
FIELD JUDGE, LINESMAN )

Loss of 15 yards by the side for whose supposed benefit the offense was committed. The number of the down and distance to be gained remaining unchanged.

If the ball was dead when the offense occurred the penalty will be enforced from that spot.

If the ball was in play when the offense occurred the penalty will be enforced from the spot where the ball was put in play.

*(See Note 13, Page 201.)*

**SECTION 2.** In case of accident to a player, Attendance on one representative of the player's team injured player. may, if he has first obtained the consent of the Referee, come upon the field of play to attend to the injured player, and this representative need not always be the same person.

**SECTION 3.** No person other than the Persons allowed players, the officials, the representatives on field of play. above mentioned in Section 2, or an incoming substitute, shall at any time come upon the field of play without permission of the Referee.

#### PENALTY

(REFEREE, UMPIRE, FIELD JUDGE)

Loss of 15 yards by the side whose man committed the offense, the number of the

## RULE XXV.

down and distance to be gained remaining unchanged.

The spot from which the penalty shall be enforced will be determined as under penalty for breach of Section 1.

Persons allowed  
to walk up and  
down on side  
lines.

SECTION 4. Only five men shall be allowed to walk up and down on each side of the field. The rest, including substitutes, water carriers, and all who are admitted within the enclosure, must be seated throughout the game.

## PENALTY

(REFEREE, UMPIRE, FIELD JUDGE)

Loss of 15 yards by the side whose man committed the offence, the number of the down and distance to be gained remaining unchanged.

The spot from which the penalty shall be enforced will be determined as under penalty for breach of Section 1.

## RULE XXVI.

## ENFORCEMENT OF PENALTIES.

(GOVERNING ALL CASES NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR.)

Spot from  
which enforced.

SECTION 1. Penalties for fouls committed *by players* shall be enforced from the spot where the foul was committed.

Penalties for fouls committed *by persons other than players* will be enforced as specifically provided under Rule XXV., Page 177.

Ball after dis-  
tance penalty not  
in advance of  
point necessary  
for first down in  
previous play.

SECTION 2. If a foul is committed by the *side which put the ball in play*, and the distance penalty does *not leave the ball in advance* of the point necessary for first down when the ball was last put in play,

## RULE XXVI.

the down and point to be gained for first down shall remain the same as they were at the beginning of the scrimmage during which the foul occurred.

SECTION 3. If a foul is committed by the *side which put the ball in play* after a gain of such a length that the distance penalty leaves *the ball in advance* of the point necessary for first down when the ball was last put in play, the ensuing down shall be counted first down with 10 yards to gain.

Ball after distance penalty in advance of point necessary for first down in previous play.

SECTION 4. If a foul is committed by the *side which did not put the ball in play*, the scrimmage after a distance penalty shall be counted as first down.

First down when offending side not in possession of ball.

SECTION 5. If a foul is committed by a player when *neither side is in possession* of the ball, the ball shall go to the offended side as first down.

First down when neither side in possession of ball.

SECTION 6. If a foul is committed within the 1-yard line and the distance penalty if enforced would result in a touchdown, one-half the remaining distance to the goal line shall be given.

Foul within 1-yard line.

(See Rule XXIV., Page 174, Section 8.)

SECTION 7. If a foul is committed *not within* the 1-yard line and the distance penalty if enforced would result in a touchdown or carry the ball inside the 1-yard line, the ball shall be down on the 1-yard

Distance penalty carrying ball inside 1-yard line or across goal line.

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**line.** This provision includes cases arising under Rule XXV., Page 177.

**One official penalizing one side, another official the other side on same play.** SECTION 8. In case one official signals a foul against one side and another official signals a foul against the other side on the same play, the penalties being other than disqualification, the ball shall be brought back to the point where it was put in play and be played over again, the number of the down and the point to be gained for first down remaining the same.

*(See Section 10, Page 180.)*

**More than one official penalizing same side on same play.** SECTION 9. In case officials signal different fouls against the same side during the same play, the sum of the penalties shall be inflicted.

**Disqualification always enforced.** SECTION 10. In case of disqualification by any official, the disqualification may not be declined by the offended side, nor may the distance penalty accompanying it be offset by a foul by the other side, unless such foul is also punishable by disqualification.

*(See Section 8, Page 180.)*

**Refusal of penalties.** SECTION 11. Penalties for all other fouls, except for side line coaching, may be declined by the offended side, in which case the play shall proceed exactly as if no foul had been committed.

## RULE XXVII.

SECTION 1. The officials of the game shall be a Referee, an Umpire, a Field Judge and a Linesman.

## RULE XXVIII.

### DUTIES OF THE REFEREE.

SECTION 1. The Referee shall have general oversight and control of the game. He shall be sole authority for the score and sole judge of forfeiture of the game under the rules.

*(See Section 3, Page 181.)*

SECTION 2. The decision of the Referee upon all matters not specifically designated under the duties of other officials shall be final.

SECTION 3. In making his decisions the Referee must recognize and allow precedence to any penalty declared by the Umpire.

SECTION 4. The Referee may appeal to any of the other officials for testimony upon points within his jurisdiction.

SECTION 5. He must report to the Umpire any infringement of certain indicated sections of Rule XXIV., Page 174, and Rule XXV., Page 177, and all cases of holding or unlawful use of hands or arms which come under his observation.

SECTION 6. It is the special province of the Referee to see that the ball is properly

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put in play, and except as otherwise provided, he shall be sole judge of its position and progress.

SECTION 7. At every kick-off and in every case when time has been taken out, before ordering play to begin, the Referee shall—

(a) Ascertain from each captain that his team is ready; and,

(b) Make sure that the other officials are ready.

SECTION 8. The Referee shall be responsible for the enforcement of the following rules :

**BRIEF OF RULES.****(WHERE REFEREE HAS JURISDICTION.)****RULE I.—FIELD.**

SECTION 1—Dimensions.

SECTION 2—Marking.

SECTION 3—Goal.

**RULE II.—BALL.****RULE III.—PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES.**

SECTION 1—Number of Players.

SECTION 2—Substitutes.

**RULE IV.—LENGTH OF GAME.**

SECTION 1—Length of halves.

SECTION 2—Intermission.

SECTION 3—Darkness.

SECTION 4—Time extended.

**RULE V.—SCORING.**

**RULE XXVIII.****RULE VI.—DEFINITIONS.**

SECTION 1—Methods of kicking the ball.

SECTION 2—Snapping the ball.

SECTION 3—Scrimmage.

SECTION 6—A down occurs.

SECTION 7—Touchdown.

SECTION 8—Touchback.

SECTION 9—Safety.

SECTION 10—Goal from Touchdown.

SECTION 11—Goal from the Field.

SECTION 13—Out of bounds.

SECTION 15—Hurdling.

SECTION 16—The ball is dead.

**RULE VII.—KICK-OFF.**

SECTION 1—Team entitled to kick-off.

SECTION 2—Ball crossing goal line.

**RULE VIII.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT SCRIMMAGE.**

SECTION 3—Five center men to be on line.

**RULE IX.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT KICK-OFF.**

SECTION 1—Kicker.

**RULE X.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT KICK-OUT.**

SECTION 1—Kicker.

SECTION 2—No player in possession of the ball  
to cross restraining line.

SECTION 3—Ball not to touch ground.

**RULE XI.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT PUNT-OUT.**

SECTION 1—Punter.



**RULE XXVIII.****RULE XII.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT PLACE-KICK FOR GOAL AFTER TOUCHDOWN.**

SECTION 1—Kicker.

SECTION 2—No player in possession of the ball to cross restraining line.

**RULE XIII.—POSITION OF PLAYERS ON FREE-KICK AFTER FAIR CATCH OTHER THAN FAIR CATCH FROM PUNT-OUT.**

SECTION 1—Kicker.

SECTION 2—No player in possession of the ball to cross restraining line.

SECTION 3—Ball not to touch ground.

**RULE XV.—PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY.**

SECTION 1—By scrimmage unless otherwise provided.

SECTION 2—After fair catch.

SECTION 3—After a foul, not until.

SECTION 4—“Quarter-back run.”

SECTION 5—Feint to snap the ball.

SECTION 6—Feints by players of side on offense other than snapper-back.

SECTION 7—After out of bounds on kick-off.

SECTION 8—After out of bounds at kick-out.

SECTION 9—After out of bounds except at kick-off and kick-out.

SECTION 10—Walking in with ball after out of bounds.

SECTION 12—Ball touching ground at try-at-goal to go as kick-off.

**RULE XXVIII.**

SECTION 13—After try-at-goal ball to go as kick-off.

SECTION 14—On failure of fair-catch at punt-out ball to go as kick-off.

**RULE XVI.—DELAY OF GAME.**

SECTION 1—Time taken out when.

SECTION 2—Ball out of bounds.

SECTION 3—By request of captains.  
By order of Referee.

SECTION 4—No delay more than two minutes.

**RULE XVII.—UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH PLAY.**

SECTION 1—Interference with snapper-back or ball.

SECTION 3—Snapper-back and player opposite not to touch ball until.

SECTION 4—Ball scrimmaged by kick forward not to be touched until.

**RULE XVIII.—OBSTRUCTION OF OPPONENT BY USE OF HANDS AND ARMS AFTER THE BALL IS PUT IN PLAY.**

SECTION 5—Holding and unlawful use of hands and arms.

(The Referee shall report to the Umpire any infractions of this section which come under his observation.)

**RULE XIX.—PASSING OR THROWING THE BALL.**

SECTION 1—Backward pass.

SECTION 2—Forward pass by side not putting the ball in play.

**RULE XXVIII.**

SECTION 3—Illegal forward passes:

- (a) Crossing scrimmage line within five yards from the spot where ball was put in play.
- (b) Made by player who was not behind the line of scrimmage when the ball was put in play.
- (c) A second forward pass in the same scrimmage.

SECTION 5—Players who may receive forward pass:

- (b) Any player on opponents' side.
- (c) Any player on either side when.

SECTION 9—Batting the ball.

**RULE XXI.—NECESSARY GAIN ON DOWNS.**

SECTION 1—10 yards in three downs.

SECTION 2—Continuity of downs broken.

SECTION 3—Position of ball in measuring.

**RULE XXII.—NECESSARY DISTANCE ON A KICK.**

SECTION 1—10 yards necessary in case of kick-off, kick-out, or kick from fair-catch.

**RULE XXIII.—TRY-AT-GOAL.**

SECTION 1—Must be place-kick.

**RULE XXIV.—CONDUCT OF PLAYERS.**

(The Referee shall report to the Umpire infractions of the following sections of Rule XXIV., Page 174) :

SECTION 1—Striking, kneeling, kicking, etc.

SECTION 2—"Roughing the full-back."

**RULE XXVIII.**

SECTION 3—Piling up.

SECTION 5—Tripping, tackling out of bounds, etc.

SECTION 6—Unsportsmanlike conduct.

(The Referee shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the following sections of Rule XXIV., Page 174):

SECTION 4—Hurdling.

SECTION 8—Play for penalties to delay game.

(Under the following section of Rule XXIV. the Referee shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Umpire):

SECTION 9—Unfair play.

**RULE XXV.—CONDUCT OF PERSONS OTHER THAN PLAYERS.**

(The Referee shall report to the Umpire infractions of the following sections of Rule XXV., Page 177):

SECTION 1—Coaching from the side lines.

SECTION 3—Persons allowed on field of play.

SECTION 4—Persons allowed to walk along side lines.

(Referee has exclusive jurisdiction under the following section of Rule XXV., Page 177):

SECTION 2—Attendance on injured player.

**RULE XXIX.**

**DUTIES OF THE UMPIRE.**

SECTION 1. The Umpire shall be judge of the conduct and position of the players, and his decision shall be final regarding such fouls as are not specifically placed

**RULE XXIX.**

within the jurisdiction of the Referee or the Field Judge.

SECTION 2. Under Rule XXIV., Page 174, and Rule XXV., Page 177, other officials are given concurrent jurisdiction in cases of certain fouls. Such fouls, and all fouls signalled by the Field Judge, must be reported to the Umpire, who shall thereupon enforce the penalty.

SECTION 3. The Umpire shall signal all fouls with a horn or bell, and the play shall continue until the ball is declared dead by the Referee.

SECTION 4. If during any play the Umpire has signalled a foul or had reported to him any foul by another official he shall

(a) In case the foul does not involve the loss of the ball or the manner in which or place where the ball shall be put in play, notify the Referee and forthwith enforce the penalty; or,

(b) In case the penalty involves loss of the ball or manner in which or place where it shall be put in play, indicate to the Referee the spot where the foul was committed, from which spot the Referee shall enforce the penalty.

SECTION 5. The Umpire may appeal to any of the other officials for testimony in cases of fouls seen by them.

**RULE XXIX.**

SECTION 6. In cases of coaching by persons other than players, the Umpire shall, in addition to the imposition of the penalty provided in Rule XXV., Page 177, exclude the offender for the remainder of the game from the neighborhood of the field of play; i. e., send him behind the ropes or fence surrounding the field of play.

SECTION 7. The Umpire shall be responsible for the enforcement of the following rules:

**BRIEF OF RULES.****(WHERE UMPIRE HAS JURISDICTION.)****RULE III.—PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES.**

SECTION 3—Equipment of players. Devices for protection, etc.

**RULE VI.—DEFINITIONS.**

SECTION 3—The line of scrimmage.

SECTION 4—Off-side.

SECTION 14—Tripping.

**RULE VIII.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT SCRIMMAGE.**

SECTION 1—Six players on line; locking legs.

SECTION 2—No player ahead of scrimmage line.

SECTION 4—Only one man in motion when ball is put in play.

**RULE IX.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT KICK-OFF.**

SECTION 2—Kicker's side behind the ball.

SECTION 3—Opponents behind restraining line.

**RULE XXIX.**

**RULE X.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT KICK-OUT.**

SECTION 4—Kicker's side behind the ball.

SECTION 5—Opponents behind restraining line until.

**RULE XI.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT PUNT-OUT.**

SECTION 2—Punter's side behind restraining line.

SECTION 3—Opponents behind their restraining line.

**RULE XII.—POSITION OF PLAYERS AT PLACE-KICK FOR GOAL AFTER TOUCHDOWN.**

SECTION 3—Kicker's side behind the ball.

SECTION 4—Opponents behind goal line.

**RULE XIII.—POSITION OF PLAYERS ON FREE-KICK AFTER FAIR CATCH (OTHER THAN FAIR CATCH FROM PUNT-OUT).**

SECTION 4—Kicker's side behind the ball.

SECTION 5—Opponents behind restraining line until.

**RULE XIV.—PLAYERS OUT OF BOUNDS.**

SECTION 1—No player except kicker and holder of ball.

**RULE XVII.—UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH PLAY.**

SECTION 2—Interference with opponents on scrimmage line.

**RULE XVIII.—OBSTRUCTION OF OPPONENTS BY USE OF HANDS AND ARMS AFTER THE BALL IS PUT IN PLAY.**

SECTION 1—Player running with ball.



**RULE XXIX.**

SECTION 2—Player running down the field under a kick.

SECTION 3—By side not in possession of ball.

SECTION 4—Tackling the runner with the ball.

SECTION 5—Holding and unlawful use of hands and arms.

**RULE XX.—OFF-SIDE AND ON-SIDE.**

SECTION 1—Players off-side when.

SECTION 2—Off-side player may touch ball when.

SECTION 3—Off-side player is put on-side when ball has touched opponent.

SECTION 4—When kicked ball touches the ground in field of play.

SECTION 5—Kicker, though on side, may not recover ball.

**RULE XXIV.—CONDUCT OF PLAYERS.**

SECTION 1—Striking, kneeing, kicking, etc.

SECTION 2—"Roughing the full-back."

SECTION 3—Piling up.

SECTION 5—Tripping, tackling out of bounds, etc.

SECTION 6—Unsportsmanlike conduct.

SECTION 7—Tackling below the knees.

SECTION 9—Unfair play otherwise unprovided for.

**RULE XXV.—CONDUCT OF PERSONS OTHER THAN PLAYERS.**

SECTION 1—Side line coaching.

SECTION 3—Persons allowed on field of play.

SECTION 4—Persons allowed on side line.

## RULE XXX.

### DUTIES OF THE FIELD JUDGE.

SECTION 1. The Field Judge will generally occupy a position well back of the team not in possession of the ball and will be nearest the side of the field opposite from the Linesman. Generally speaking, he will relieve the Referee of some of the Referee's duties in this part of the field and also observe and report fouls which otherwise might not come to the attention of the Umpire.

SECTION 2. He shall signal with a horn all violations of rules covering holding, interference and conduct of players which he observes on any part of the field and shall forthwith report them to the Umpire.

SECTION 3. He shall have, as assistant to the Referee, jurisdiction over the ball and over interference and other fouls in connection with the catching, securing or possession of the ball when it has been kicked or passed down the field. This will include all rulings in connection with a fair catch and the touching of the ball by any player after a kick or forward pass and the possession of the ball which has been kicked or passed down the field.

He shall not declare such rulings, but shall report them direct to the Referee.

**RULE XXX.**

SECTION 4. He shall mark the point where the ball goes out of bounds on the opposite side of the field from that on which the Linesman is stationed, and designate this point to the Referee.

SECTION 5. On all attempts at a goal from the field or after touchdown, he shall take a position under the goal posts, and if called upon by the Referee to do so shall assist the Referee in making his decision.

SECTION 6. By holding up his hand he shall indicate to the Referee when to blow the whistle on all decisions under his jurisdiction.

SECTION 7. The Field Judge shall have, in assisting the Referee and the Umpire, jurisdiction in connection with the following rules:

**BRIEF OF RULES.**

(WHERE FIELD JUDGE HAS JURISDICTION FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF ASSISTING REFEREE AND  
UMPIRE.)

**RULE VI.—**

SECTION 5—Fair catch; not a fair catch; mark of the catch; opportunity to make a fair catch.

SECTION 6—A down occurs.

(c) Ball out of bounds on side opposite from Linesman.

(e) Forward pass touching the ground.

**RULE XXX.**

SECTION 8—Touchback when kicked ball crosses goal, etc.

SECTION 10—Goal from touchdown.

SECTION 11—Goal from field.

SECTION 16—The ball is dead.

(b) When fair catch has been made.

(d) When ball goes out of bounds after a kick. (On side opposite Linesman.)

(e) When player carrying the ball goes out of bounds. (On side opposite Linesman.)

(f) Forward pass crossing goal line on fly.

(g) Forward pass crossing goal line after being legally touched.

(h) Kicked ball crossing goal line before being touched by player.

**RULE VII.—KICK-OFF.**

SECTION 2—Ball kicked across goal line.

**RULE XV.—PUTTING THE BALL IN PLAY.**

SECTION 11—When catcher takes more than two steps after making fair catch.

**RULE XVII.—UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH PLAY.**

SECTION 5—Opponents not to interfere with opportunity for fair catch.

SECTION 6—Maker of fair catch not to be thrown.

**RULE XXX.**

SECTION 7—Signal for fair catch protects only the player signalling.

**RULE XVIII.—OBSTRUCTION OF OPPONENTS BY USE OF HANDS AND ARMS AFTER THE BALL IS PUT IN PLAY.**

SECTION 1—Player running with ball.

SECTION 2—Player running down the field.

SECTION 3—By side not in possession of ball.

SECTION 4—Tackling the runner with the ball.

SECTION 5—Holding and unlawful use of hands and arms.

**RULE XIX.—PASSING OR THROWING THE BALL.**

SECTION 4—Forward pass striking ground.

SECTION 5—Players who may receive forward pass (*a*), (*b*), (*c*).

SECTION 6—Forward pass out of bounds.

SECTION 7—Forward pass crossing goal line on fly.

SECTION 8—Forward pass crossing goal line after being legally touched.

**RULE XX.—OFF-SIDE AND ON-SIDE.**

SECTION 1—Players off-side when.

SECTION 2—Off-side player may touch ball when.

SECTION 3—Off-side player is put on-side when ball has touched opponent.

SECTION 4—When kicked ball touches the ground in field of play.

SECTION 5—Kicker, though on-side, may not recover ball.

**RULE XXX.****RULE XXIV.—CONDUCT OF PLAYERS.**

SECTION 1—Striking, kneeing, kicking, etc.

SECTION 2—“Roughing the full-back.”

SECTION 3—Piling up.

SECTION 5—Tripping, tackling out of bounds, etc.

SECTION 6—Unsportsmanlike conduct.

SECTION 7—Tackling below the knees.

**RULE XXV.—CONDUCT OF PERSONS OTHER THAN PLAYERS.**

SECTION 1—Side line coaching.

SECTION 3—Persons allowed on field of play.

SECTION 4—Persons allowed on side lines.

**RULE XXXI.****DUTIES OF LINESMAN.**

SECTION 1. The Linesman under the supervision of the Referee shall mark the distances gained or lost in the progress of the play. He shall remain on or near one of the side lines throughout the game, and be provided with two assistants, who shall remain outside of the field of play and who shall use in measuring distance two light poles or rods about 6 feet in length, connected at their lower end by a stout cord or chain 10 yards in length.

**RULE XXXI.**

He shall mark the position of the ball on each down by using a short iron rod.

SECTION 2. He shall mark the point where the ball goes out of bounds on his side of the field.

SECTION 3. The Linesman under the direction of the Referee shall also keep the time, and shall use a stop-watch for this purpose. He should start the watch not when the Referee blows his whistle but when the ball is put in play.

SECTION 4. The Linesman shall notify the captains of the time remaining for play not more than ten nor less than five minutes before the end of each half. He may, upon inquiry, give the approximate remaining time to a captain at any time during the game, provided he does not comply with such a request more than three times during the last five minutes of the half.

SECTION 5. The Linesman shall report to the Umpire any off-side play of the ends on a kick, and any tripping of ends after a kick.

SECTION 6. The Linesman's jurisdiction under the following rules is exclusively as assistant to the Referee and Umpire, respectively, to which officials he shall report.



**RULE XXXI.****BRIEF OF RULES.**

(WHERE LINESMAN HAS JURISDICTION IN ASSISTING  
THE REFEREE AND UMPIRE.)

**RULE VI.—DEFINITIONS.**

SECTION 6 (c)—Ball out of bounds on side  
opposite Field Judge.

SECTION 16—The ball is dead:

(d) When ball goes out of bounds after  
a kick.

(e) When player carrying the ball goes  
out of bounds.

**RULE XIX.—PASSING OR THROWING THE BALL.**

SECTION 6—Forward pass out of bounds.

**RULE XXIV.—CONDUCT OF PLAYERS.**

SECTION 1—Striking, kneeing, kicking, etc.

SECTION 2—"Roughing the full-back."

SECTION 3—Piling up.

SECTION 5—Tripping, tackling out of bounds,  
etc.



## NOTES

The notes in former editions were sometimes of equal rank and force with the rules, in which case they have been made rules in this edition, and in other cases they were interpretations of the rules, recommendations or mere suggestions as to the arrangement of the field or the conduct of the game, in which cases they are given here.

### **Note 1. Rule I.—Marking Out of Field.**

The intersecting 5-yard lines, used for convenience in measuring distances, need generally be marked out only at their points on intersection.

The Referee, previous to the beginning of play, should satisfy himself that the various lines are properly marked.

### **Note 2. Measuring Progress of Ball.**

To assist in measuring the progress of the ball it is desirable to provide two light poles about six feet in length, connected at their lower ends by a stout cord or chain 10 yards in length.

### **Note 3. Timing and Signals by Officials.**

It is desirable to have a stop-watch for the Linesman, a whistle for the Referee and a horn or bell of some kind for the Umpire, in order to distinguish his call from that of the Referee.

### **Note 4. Rule VI., Section 3—Two Lines of Scrimmage.**

It is evident from the definition that there must be two

lines of scrimmage, one for each side, thus separating the two forward lines by a space equal to the length of the ball.

**Note 5. Rule XV.—Who May Put the Ball in Play.**

Any player of the side that is entitled to a free-kick may put the ball in play.

**Note 6. Rule VIII., Section 1—Object of Restrictions on Position of Players on Scrimmage Line.**

Rule VIII., Section 1, is intended to prevent any player required to be on the line of scrimmage from taking a position at such an angle to the line of scrimmage, whether he faces in toward the center or away from it, as shall enable him the more readily to get into the interference.

**Note 7. Rule VIII., Section 3—Shifting of Middle Men.**

The playing of a so-called center, guard or tackle on defense as an end or back on offense, or any other shifting of men in attempted evasion of Rule VIII., Section 3, is construed to be within the prohibition. If a captain desires to shift the center, guard or tackle into the back-field, he may do so on speaking to the Referee. But the player so shifted shall not again return to one of these middle line positions.

**Note 8. Rule XX., Section 5—Roughing the Full-Back.**

As by virtue of the prohibition of Rule XX., Section 5, the kicker can neither put players on-side nor himself get the ball, there is no excuse for running into or otherwise roughly treating him, and consequently officials should punish such offenses by disqualification, as provided in Rule XXIV., Section 2.

**Note 9. Rule VI., Section 14; Rule XXIV., Section 4—Diving Under a Play.**

Mere diving under a play is construed as not being within the definition or prohibition of *tripping*.

**Note 10. Rule VI., Section 15; Rule XXIV., Section 4—Stepping Over a Player.**

Mere stepping over a prostrate player, though the player so doing may have momentarily both feet in the air at the same time, is construed as not being within the definition or prohibition of *hurdling*.

**Note 11. Rule XIII., Section 5.**

The penalty under Rule XIII., Section 5, is to be enforced, though it results in placing the offending side behind its own goal line. A second offense behind the goal line is to be penalized exactly as if it had occurred inside the field of play.

**Note 12. No Play After Ball Dead.**

It is obvious that when the ball is dead no play can be made until the ball has again been put into play according to rule.

**Note 13. Rule XXV., Section 1—Side Line Coaching.**

The Rules Committee especially requests the captains and coaches to use every means to discourage and prevent side line coaching.

**Note 14. Rule XXIV., Sections 1 and 2—Suspension From Playing Privilege by Institution on Two Disqualifications.**

The Rules Committee recommends that any player who is twice disqualified in the same season for any violation of Rule XXIV., Sections 1 and 2, or for a deliberate attempt to injure an opponent shall not be permitted to play again within one year from the date of the second disqualification.

**Note 15. Rule XV., Sections 7 and 8.**

Kicking the ball again in case it goes out of bounds at kick-off or on a kick-out is not a penalty, and therefore may not be declined.

**Note 16. Rule XXIX., Section 5.**

Captains and players may not, however, appeal to Referee or Linesman for their testimony on points involving disqualification.

**Note 17. Rule XII.**

In case of a place-kick the kicker may touch or adjust the ball in the hands of the holder so long as the ball does not touch the ground.



No. 1.

LEGAL POSITION OF BALL BEFORE BEING PUT IN PLAY IN A SCRIMMAGE.

The ball is *flat* upon the ground with its *long axis* at *right angles* to the *line of scrimmage*.  
(See Rule VI., Sec. 3, Page 143.)



No. 2.

ILLEGAL POSITION OF BALL BEFORE BEING PUT IN PLAY IN A SCRUMMAGE.  
The ball is neither *flat* upon the ground, nor is its *long axis* at *right angles* to the *line of scrimmage*.  
(See Rule VI., Sec. 3, Page 143.)



No. 3.

ILLEGAL POSITION OF BALL BEFORE BEING PUT IN PLAY IN A SCRIMMAGE.  
The ball is neither *flat* upon the ground, nor is its *long axis* at *right angles* to the *line of scrimmage*.  
(See Rule VI., Sec. 3, Page 143.)





No. 4.

ILLUSTRATION SHOWING THE TWO LINES OF SCRIMMAGE, ONE FOR EACH SIDE.

Also showing the snapper-back with his *head* and *hands* legally off-side.  
(See Rule VI, Sec. 3, Page 143, and Rule VIII., Sec. 2, Page 152.)



No. 5.

LEGAL POSITION OF PLAYER SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE.

Player No. 1, since he is one of the two players standing on either side of and next to the snapper-back, has legally locked legs with the snapper-back. (See Rule VIII., Sec. 1, Page 151.)

ILLEGAL POSITION OF PLAYERS SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE.

Players numbered 2 and 3 are not standing with both feet outside the outside foot of the player next to them, that is, they are illegally "locking legs." (See Rule VIII., Sec. 1, Page 151.)



No. 6.

## ILLEGAL POSITION OF PLAYER SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE.

The player facing the reader has neither *both hands* nor *both feet* up to or within one foot of the line of scrimmage, nor has he *one foot* and *the opposite hand* up to or within one foot of it. Furthermore, he has taken a position, facing away from the center, that will enable him the more rapidly to get into the interference. (See Rule VIII., Sec. 1, Page 151.)



## No. 7.

## ILLEGAL POSITION OF PLAYER SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE.

The player standing back to the reader has neither *both hands* nor *both feet* up to or within one foot of the line of scrimmage, nor has he *one foot* and the *opposite hand* up to or within one foot of it. Furthermore, he has taken a position, facing in toward the center, that will enable him the more rapidly to get into the interference. (See Rule VIII., Sec. 1, Page 151.)



No. 8.

**ILLEGAL POSITION OF PLAYER SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE.**

The player in the foreground may be said to have *both hands, or one foot and the opposite hand*, up to or within one foot of the line of scrimmage, but he has taken a position that *will enable him the more rapidly to get into the interference*, and is therefore violating the spirit of the rule. (See Rule VIII., Sec. 1, Page 151.)



No. 9.

**VALID SIGNAL FOR A FAIR CATCH.**

The player, while advancing toward the ball, has *raised his hand clearly* above his head. (See Rule VI., Sec. 5, Page 144.)



No. 10.

**INVALID SIGNAL FOR A FAIR CATCH.**

The player, while advancing toward the ball, has *not raised his hand clearly* above his head. (See Rule VI., Sec. 5, Page 144.)





No. 11.

## ILLUSTRATION OF TRIPPING.

The player wearing the sweater is obstructing the other player with *that part of his leg that is below the knee.* (See Rule VI., Sec. 14, Page 148.)



No. 12.

**LEGAL USE OF BODY IN BLOCKING.**

The player on the right has thrown his shoulder against his opponent's thigh to block him away from the play, but is not using his hands or arms.  
(See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 13.

ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL.  
Player is *grasping* with his hands the foot of an opponent. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 14.

**ILLEGAL USE OF HAND AND ARM BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL.**

The middle player of the group, in endeavoring to protect the "runner" behind him, has *grasped* an opponent by the jersey. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 15.

**LEGAL POSITION IN BLOCKING.**

The player facing the reader has slipped his leg in between the legs of his opponent, but is not using his hands or arms to hold him there.

NOTE—This case shades very rapidly into that indicated on plate No. 16. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 16.

**ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS IN BLOCKING.**

The player facing the reader has slipped his right leg in between the legs of his opponent, and is *holding* his opponent's right leg against his own by the *use of his hand and arm*.

NOTE—The use of the leg, here pictured, is legitimate. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 17.

## ILLEGAL USE OF ARM BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF BALL.

Player No. 1, in endeavoring to obstruct an opponent, is using his arm to push an opponent away from the play.  
(See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)





No. 18.

ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF BALL.

Player No. 1, in attempting to obstruct an opponent, has placed his *hands* upon an opponent to *push him away from the play*. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 19.

ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL.

The player, in attempting to obstruct his opponent has *circled* him with his arm. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 20.

**ILLEGAL USE OF HAND AND ARM BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL.**

The player, in obstructing his opponent, has *circled* him with his arm and *grasped* him with his hand.

(See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 161.)



No. 21.

ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS BY PLAYER OF THE SIDE IN  
POSSESSION OF THE BALL.

The player has *grasped* his opponent around the knee and is *lifting him up*.  
(See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 22.

**ILLEGAL USE OF ARMS IN LIFTING AN OPPONENT IN BLOCKING.**

The player on the right has managed to get under his opponent's right shoulder with both hands and is *lifting him away from the play*. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 23.

**ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS IN LIFTING AN OPPONENT IN BLOCKING.**

The player on the right has slipped both arms, from his elbow out, in under his opponent, and is commencing to lift him up and away from the play. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 157)



No. 24.

**LEGAL USE OF ARMS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL.**

Player No. 2, in attempting to obstruct an opponent, is keeping his arms *close to his body*. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)





No. 25.

LEGAL USE OF ARMS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF  
THE BALL.

Player No. 2, in attempting to obstruct an opponent, is keeping his arms *close to his body*. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 26.

LEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL.

The player in the middle of the group, in attempting to obstruct an opponent, is keeping his hands together and his *arms close to his body*.

NOTE—The Committee wishes to make it plain that if, in interfering, a player keeps his hands together and close to his body, he may legitimately use the projecting portions of his arms. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 27.

ILLEGAL USE OF HANDS AND ARMS BY PLAYER OF SIDE IN  
POSSESSION OF BALL.

The player in the middle of the group is attempting to obstruct an opponent by the use of his hands and arms—which *are not close to his body*.

NOTE—The Committee wishes to make it plain that if, in interfering, a player does *not* keep his hands together, and his arms close to his body—he may not legitimately use the projecting portions of his arms. (See Rule XVIII., Sec. 5, Page 167.)



No. 23.

ILLEGAL STRIKING, WITH THE LOCKED HANDS, BY A LINE MAN  
IN BREAKING THROUGH.

The player on the right, having *locked his hands*, is on the point of dealing his opponent an upward blow under the chin.

(See Rule XXIV., Sec. 1, Page 174.)



No. 29.

ILLEGAL STRIKING OF AN OPPONENT IN THE FACE WITH THE HEEL OF THE HAND BY A PLAYER  
ON DEFENSE.

The player on the right, who is on the defense, is on the point of striking in the face, with the heel of his hand, the opponent who is carrying the ball. (See Rule XXIV., Sec. 1, Page 174.)



No. 30.

LEGAL TACKLING ABOVE THE KNEES.  
(See Rule XXIV., Sec. 7, Page 175.)

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